



# VILLAGE OF MUNDELEIN

*Marilyn Sindles, Mayor*

*Pamela Keeney, Clerk*

440 East Hawley Street  
Mundelein, IL 60060  
www.mundelein.org

Telephone: (847) 949-3200  
Fax: (847) 949-0143  
info@mundelein.org

August 2, 2002

781-0029

**RECEIVED**  
AUG 7 2002  
Illinois Commerce Commission  
RAIL SAFETY SECTION

Mr. Bob Berry  
Illinois Commerce Commission  
Transportation Division/Railroad  
527 E. Capitol Ave.  
P. O. Box 19280  
Springfield, IL 62794-9280

Dear Bob:

Attached is the Automated Train Horn Activity Report for the month of August as required by the ICC order.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Flynn  
Assistant Village Administrator

MAF/ch  
Attachment

DOCKETED

BB 14



VILLAGE OF MUNDELEIN  
AUTOMATED HORN SYSTEM MONTHLY REPORT  
TO THE ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

FOR REPORTING PERIOD JULY 1, 2002 TO JULY 3, 2002

**OPERATIONS**

Total of operational problems reported 6

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Total of citizen comments related to automated horn system 11

Positive 11

Negative 0

Total of citizen complaints related to train whistles 1

**GATE VIOLATIONS**

Number of tickets issued for crossing violations for this reporting period 2

Was enforcement of crossings conducted during  
the reporting period? Yes

Total hours 1 minute

**COMMENTS**

## AUTOMATED TRAIN HORN ACTIVITY REPORT

### June 29, 2002

1.	<b>Obstruction of Highway</b> Mundelein Police Dept.	Ticket issued to Canadian National for blocking crossing on Allanson Rd.
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### July 1, 2002

1.	<b>Comment</b> Erin Sheridan 677 Wortham 847-837-0735	AHS is very good
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### July 2, 2002

1.	<b>Comment</b> Ruth Lewallen Dairy Lane	E-mail praising the AHS (see attached).
2.	<b>Comment</b> Susan Ramsey 833 Braemar Drive 847-949-6096	E-mail praising the AHS (see attached).

### July 3, 2002

1.	<b>Comment</b> Bruce Arndt 248 N. Archer Ave. 847-949-5708	E-mail praising the AHS (see attached).
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### July 4, 2002

1.	<b>Operational Problem</b> <b>(AHS confirmation signal)</b> Mundelein Public Works	Conventional warnings were in "fail-safe" which activated the AHS (see attached).
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### July 8, 2002

1.	<b>Comment</b> George & Char Heckel 1439 Banbury Rd.	E-mail praising the AHS (see attached).
2.	<b>Comment</b> Raymond Semple 574 Farina Ct. 847-566-0583	E-mail praising the AHS (see attached).

### July 9, 2002

1.	<b>Comment</b> Ruth Dwyer 1717 Victoria	Phone call praising the AHS. The new system is 100% better.
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## AUTOMATED TRAIN HORN ACTIVITY REPORT

### July 10, 2002

1.	<b>Comment</b> Guy Scrimali	E-mail praising the AHS (see attached).
2.	<b>Comment</b> Phil Wand 144 Racine Pl.	E-mail praising the AHS (see attached).

### July 17, 2002

1.	<b>Operational Problem (Crossing Gates)</b> Peggy Gilles 254 Dunbar	Reported malfunction at Dunbar crossing on morning of July 17th. Gates were down and horns sounded approximately 15 times. No train.
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### July 21, 2002

1.	<b>Obstruction of Highway</b> Mundelein Police Dept.	Ticket issued to Canadian National for blocking crossing on Allanson Rd. for a total of 21 minutes.
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### July 22, 2002

1.	<b>Comment</b> Gary Pagano 457 N. Prospect Ave.	E-mail praising the AHS (see attached).
2.	<b>Comment</b> Helen Horton 144 Racine Pl. 847-566-0061	Telephone call – the AHS is wonderful!

### July 24, 2002

1.	<b>Operational Problem (AHS confirmation signal)</b> Mundelein Public Works	At 9:00 a.m. Public Works reported that the Route 60 confirmation signal was down due to a detection failure. The system needed to be reset due to power surge. Confirmation signal restored by 12:00 noon. It was down for 3 hours.
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### July 26, 2002

1.	<b>Operational Problem (Crossing gates)</b> Mundelein Police Dept.	At 3:37 p.m. the gates were down on Townline Rd. with no train in sight. Gates reopened. Malfunction determined to be gates, not AHS.
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### July 29, 2002

1.	<b>Operational Problem (Crossing gates)</b> Mundelein Police Dept.	At 1:20 p.m. railroad crossing gates down on Townline Rd. Malfunction determined to be gates, not AHS. Railroad was notified and repairs completed promptly.
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## AUTOMATED TRAIN HORN ACTIVITY REPORT

July 30, 2002

1.	<b>Obstruction of Highway</b> Mundelein Police Dept.	At 10:53 a.m. train was blocking crossing on Allanson Rd.
2.	<b>Operational Problem</b> <b>(AHS confirmation signal)</b> Mundelein Police Dept.	Officer checked the above location at 9:54 p.m. and observed confirmation signal was not working. Canadian National was notified. (see attached)

**Village of Mundelein  
Department of Police**

**Date:** August 2, 2002

**To:** Michael Flynn  
Assistant Village Administrator

**From:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Cameron P. Eugenis  
Deputy Chief/Operations

**Subject:** Railroad Crossing Activity Report -

During the month of July 2002, officers of the Mundelein Police Department conducted enforcement at railroad crossings as follows:

<b>Total Time Monitoring RR Crossings for Violations</b>	<b>1 Minute</b>
<b>Number of Citations Issued to Motorists for RR Crossing Violations</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Number of Citations Issued to Railroads for Blocking Crossings</b>	<b>1</b>

CE/nt

cc: Chief Rose  
file

## Michael Flynn

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**From:** Rlewlh@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 02, 2002 1:28 PM  
**To:** mflynn@mundelein.org.  
**Subject:** Automated Horn System (public comment)

Good afternoon Mr. Flynn,

Just a quick note to let you know how my family and I feel about the new automated railroad horn system.

We live in the Loch Lomond subdivision, residing on Dairy Lane. I suppose you could say somewhat northwest of the Dunbar Road RR crossing...not the street parallel with the tracks but the next one over.

The new horn system is such a great improvement! In the past, when a train approached (especially southbound for our location) the loud whistle/horn would make it hard to hear a television program, telephone conversation or even carry on a conversation with a person in front of you. Sometimes/often, the horn would wake us in the middle of the night. Now with the automated horn system installed, none of that has happened. So very nice!

I must admit, if I were a train engineer I would have a hard time not blowing the horn knowing the terrible consequences of a mishap at a crossing... but the new horns seem to be quite effective. Frequently I have driven up to that Dunbar crossing with an approaching train and the horn (with the gates/lights) has made it quite clear.

I do hope the ICC plans to retain the system. I'm willing to bet that quite a few of the Loch Lomond residents feel the same.

Thank you,  
Ruth Lewallen

**Michael Flynn**

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**From:** Sue Ramsey [seramz@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 01, 2002 3:00 PM  
**To:** Michael Flynn  
**Subject:** Automated Horn System

Dear Mr. Flynn,

Just a quick note to let you know how pleased we are with the new automated horn system at the railroad crossings. We have lived in Loch Lomond for almost 18 years. As the tracks through town became busier, the train horns became increasingly intolerable. We hope the automated horn system will become a permanent solution to this noise problem.

Sincerely,

Susan Ramsey  
833 Braemar Drive  
Mundelein, IL 60060  
847-949-6096

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Chat with friends online, try MSN Messenger: <http://messenger.msn.com>



**Michael Flynn**

**From:** Arndtbs@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 03, 2002 1:36 PM  
**To:** Michael Flynn  
**Subject:** train whistle feedback

MIKE

I WANTED TO THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS IN THE RECENT INSTALLATION OF THE AUTOMATIC HORN SYSTEM. ORIGINALLY, DUE TO THE EXTREME COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH ANY PUBLIC PROJECT, I WAS TOTALLY OPPOSED TO EVEN THE IDEA OF THROWING MONEY AT ANY PROBLEM. HOW WRONG I WAS. I LIVE ONE BLOCK FROM THE TRACKS AND THE HORNS HAVE BECOME INTOLERABLE. MY IDEA WAS TO FORCE THE TRAINS TO LIMIT THE LENGTH AND THE AMOUNT OF BLASTS. AFTER NOT HEARING WHISTLES FOR THE LAST FEW WEEKS, I, AM A BELIEVER. ANY AMOUNT OF MY TAX MONEY WOULD BE JUSTIFIED TO KEEP THAT SOUND AWAY. IF THEY DECIDE TO REMOVE THOSE AUTOMATIC HORNS I WILL PERSONALLY LEAD A REVOLT TO STOP THEM. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR MY SANITY!

BRUCE ARNDT  
248 N. ARCHER AVE  
MUNDELEIN  
847-949-5708

7/3/2002

**Michael Flynn**

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**From:** George & Char Heckel [heckelg@att.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 08, 2002 5:12 PM  
**To:** Michael Flynn  
**Subject:** Automated Train Horns

I believe the Automated Railroad Horn System has improved the quality of life for the majority of Loch Lomond residents. I have lived on the east side of Banbury Road near Rye Road for over 30 years, listening to the train horns sound (seemingly non-stop) from Peterson Road through downtown Mundelein. And I must tell you technology has finally produced a reasonable answer to alert motorists and pedestrians at railroad crossings. The automated system reduces noise pollution significantly, while maintaining the required safety precautions at the crossings.

I thank the Village Board for persuing alternatives to the manual horn sounding system and am grateful for a more peaceful existence.

Sincerely,

Charlene Heckel

7/10/2002

## Michael Flynn

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**From:** RayS1  
**Sent:** Monday, July 08, 2002 11:54 AM  
**To:** Michael Flynn  
**Subject:** Train Horns

Mike - put the Semple family at 574 Farina Ct. in Mundelein as one of the favorable responses to the on-site train horns...we enjoy being able to sleep at night. We can not imagine what it was like for people living close to the tracks since we live over a mile away.

How many negative responses have there been - besides good old Charlie??

Thanks, Ray Semple

PS: GREAT JOB this weekend...Everything was great - even the weather you ordered!

Raymond T. Semple  
Director, National Accounts - MIT  
First American Real Estate Solutions, L.P.  
574 Farina Ct.  
Mundelein, IL 60060-2649  
Phone: 847-566-0583  
Fax: 253-390-2954  
rsemple@firstam.com  
www.firstamres.com

7/10/2002

**Michael Flynn**

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**From:** Eddie Boy [eddie2547@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 10, 2002 12:48 PM  
**To:** Michael Flynn  
**Subject:** Automated Horn System

To whom it may concern,

I live in Mundelein, IL approx. one half mile from three railroad crossings which have the new automated horn installed. My family has noticed a significant decrease in the noise level coming from these crossings. The most noticable difference is in the middle of the night when the house windows are open. I am not awakened by four blasts of the train horn at each crossing. The horn system is still audible from that distance, but not nearly as distrubing. I have been on the road at the crossings when a train is approaching and the horn system is enough to warn any approaching traffic. Please help keep the noise pollution under control.

Thank you,

Guy Scrimali Mundelein, IL

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New! SBC Yahoo! Dial - 1st Month Free & unlimited access

7/10/2002

Michael Flynn

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From: Wandster@aol.com  
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2002 6:55 AM  
To: Michael Flynn  
Subject: AUTOMATED HORN SYSTEM

Mike,

We wanted to get our vote in for the new automated horn system. We live on Racine Place in the Holcomb subdivision and we LIKE IT! Do not have to listen to the train horn from Allanson Road to Winchester Road as we did in the past.

Hope it becomes permanent after the evaluation period.

Phil Wand  
144 Racine PL  
Mundelein

**Michael Flynn**

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**From:** Info  
**Sent:** Monday, July 22, 2002 9:27 AM  
**To:** Michael Flynn  
**Subject:** AD - FW: Automated Horn System

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Gcgkp@aol.com [mailto:Gcgkp@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Fri 7/19/2002 6:16 PM  
**To:** Info  
**Cc:** MikeFlynn@aol.com  
**Subject:** Automated Horn System

Mike:

I live at about Hawley and Prospect Ave and I feel that the automated horn system is a great system. You do not hear the noise throughout the neighborhood. I feel it is important for the trains to give warning while each goes through a crossing. The horn system minimizes the noise.

Gary Pagano  
457 N. Prospect Ave

7/22/2002

Date Run 07/31/2002

Mundelein Public Safety

Page 3

Time Run 15:28:48

Incident Dispatch Detail Report

ID-IMP310

RD #: MD 02-11244

Additional Remarks

Type	Date	Time	Beat	Remarks / Comments
Comments	: CM 07/30/02	21:54:41	0111	OFFICER CHECKED THE AREA OBSERVED RED FLASHING X'S NOT TO BE WORKING. NOTIFIED DISPATCH IN WHICH THEY NOTIFIED CANADIAN NATIONAL. OBSERVED THE RAIL ROAD GATE TO BE WORKING. NO FURTHER ACTION.